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October 9, 2003

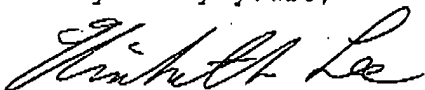
Examiner James S. McClellan
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit: 3627
Fax: 703-746-3516

Re: Application Entitled: System and Method for Funneling User
Responses in an Internet Voice Portal System to Determine a
Desired Item or Service
Application No. 09/531,743
Our File: QUAC0006

Dear James:

Please revive this case in view of the evidence of the Preliminary
Amendment filed as reponse to the office action of February 28,
2003.

Very truly yours,



Elisabeth Lee
Docketing Supervisor

Enclosure

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Carriere, *et al.*

Docket No.: QUAC0006

Serial No. : 09/531,743

Art Unit: 3627

Filed: March 21, 2000

Examiner: J. McClellan

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FUNNELING USER RESPONSES IN AN
INTERNET VOICE PORTAL SYSTEM TO DETERMINE A DESIRED ITEM OR
SERVICE

April 25, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX NON-FEE
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is responsive to the final rejection dated February 28, 2003 in the above-identified patent application.

Please amend the application as indicated below.

In the Claims:

1. A method of funneling user responses in a voice portal system to determine a desired item or service, the method comprising:

(a) establishing an attribute value associated with a particular attribute of desired item or service; and

(b) determining if the attribute value satisfies an end state, wherein if the end state is not satisfied, performing steps (a) and (b) by said voice portal with a new attribute;